



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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REP. BARNES STATEMENT ON LINCOLN HILLS INVESTIGATION

MADISON – Rep. Mandela Barnes (D – Milwaukee) released the following statement regarding developments in an investigation of potential crimes at the Lincoln Hills School for Boys:

“I am shocked by the horrific allegations of cruel, unjust, and potentially criminal behavior at the Lincoln Hills School for Boys. However, I am unfortunately not surprised given the systemic dismantling of vital public services by Gov. Walker and Wisconsin Republicans, including gross malpractices within our corrections system.

“Issues like overcrowding, lack of accountability, and failing to afford basic safety standards for both staff and inmates have led to a broken system that desperately needs immediate attention from our state’s leaders.

“I am hopeful that the current investigation will shine a light on the allegations of unsafe behavior and a toxic environment at Lincoln Hills and provide an opportunity for true reform of our broken corrections system.

“In the meantime, my upmost priority is ensuring that the youth – many whom are from Milwaukee – and the staff at the facility are in the safest and most secure environment possible. I call on leaders and stakeholders across the state to ensure we accomplish this with any and all available resources.”

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